

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LUXEMB 00368 220640Z

15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 DODE-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4417

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

S E C R E T LUXEMBOURG 0368

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP, NATO

SUBJECT: SPAIN AND NATO

REF:STATE 115823

ON MAY 21 DCM APPROACHED MFA DEPUTY POLITICAL DIRECTOR PAUL MERTZ TO MAKE POINTS CONTAINED IN REFTEL. MERTZ AGREED WITH US REASONING THAT DPC COMMUNIQUE REFERENCE TO SPAIN/NATO LESS CONTROVERSIAL THAN ANY MENTION IN NATO SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE. HE OBSERVED THAT NATO DEFENSE MINISTERS WOULD PROBABLY BE MORE RECEPTIVE THAN THEIR FOREIGN MINISTRY COLLEAGUES TO STRATEGIC ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF REFERENCE TO SPAIN/NATO TIES. MERTZ NOTED US PROPOSED LANGUAGE AND SAID THAT GOL WOULD GO ALONG IF MAJORITY FAVORED REFERENCE TO SPAIN IN DPC COMMUNIQUE. HE RULED OUT, HOWEVER, ANY POSSIBILITY THAT LUXEMBOURG REPRESENTATIVE WOULD OPENLY ARGUE FOR SUCH A REFERENCE IN DPC. MERTZ ADDED HIS PERSONAL IMPRESSION THAT THE RECENT LEFTIST DRIFT IN PORTUGAL SHOULD CONVINCE THE ALLIANCE PARTNERS OF THE NEED TO ESTABLISH SOME TIES WITH SPAIN BEFORE FRANCE DISAPPEARS AND A PERIOD OF POLITICAL INSTABILITY BEGINS IN SPAIN. FARKAS

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